



BEXAR COUNTY NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS CELEBRATION

MARCH 28 - APRIL 9, 2006

"VICTIM'S RIGHTS: STRENGTH IN UNITY"

TUESDAY, MARCH 28TH

PROCLAMATION OF NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK BY BEXAR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

The public, crime victims and victim service organizations are invited to attend Commissioners Court meeting during which National Crime Victims' Rights Week will be proclaimed. The proclamation will be held in the Bexar County Courthouse, Commissioners Courtroom at 11:00 a.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST

"THE INTENT OF THE HEART – A SURVIVOR PROJECT"

Beginning at 1:00 pm at Borders Book Store at The Quarry, the Rape Crisis Center for Children & Adults will sponsor a Book Signing and Reading – a beautiful selection of artwork, poetry and writings that portray the journey to healing and fight for survival. Purchase your copy and have it signed by one of the many participating artists. Excerpts from the book will also be read by local artists and celebrities.

MONDAY, APRIL 3RD

PRESS CONFERENCE

Beginning at 10:00 a.m. on the south end of the Cadena-Reeves Justice Center, District Attorney Susan D. Reed, joined by other city and county officials and members of the National Crime Victims Rights Week Coalition will announce the commencement of the week's events and introduce the new San Antonio Crime Victims Advocate Newspaper.

VICTIM CALL-IN HOTLINE

Victims may call 351-1363 KSAT-TV from 12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m. for information concerning the criminal justice system and referrals for victim services.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4TH

SURVIVOR TREE DEDICATION

The Rape Crisis Center for Children & Adults will be adorning trees on the RCC campus in honor of victims and survivors of sexual violence. Anyone interested can come to the office and decorate a strand of green ribbon in remembrance and honor. The ribbons will be tied to trees. The RCC is located at 7500 US Hwy 90 W, Bldg. 2.

CRIME VICTIM'S COMPENSATION TRAINING – ADVANCE TRACK

The Attorney General's Office and the San Antonio Victim's Advocacy Council will sponsor this important training opportunity. Advance Track CVC registration is at 8:00 am and training is from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. We will be located at the Alamo Area Council of Governments Boardroom, 8700 Tesoro Dr., Suite 100.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5TH

CRIME VICTIM'S COMPENSATION TRAINING – PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY

Part two of the Attorney General's Office and the San Antonio Victim's Advocacy Council sponsored CVC training will feature Presumptive Eligibility filing for CVC benefits. Registration is at 8:00 am and training is from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. We will be located at the Alamo Area Council of Governments Boardroom, 8700 Tesoro Dr., Suite 100.

LEGAL REMEDIES IN FAMILY VIOLENCE CASES SEMINAR

The San Antonio Women's Bar Association will sponsor a free seminar focusing on domestic violence issues for judges and attorneys. Judge Monica Guerrero, Presiding Judge of County Court at Law Number Seven will present. The workshop will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the City Centre, 231 W. Commerce. Free legal CLE available and lunch will be provided.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6TH

BLESSING OF VICTIM MEMORIAL WREATHS

The public, crime victims and victim service organizations are invited to attend a special service dedicated to victims of crime and to bless the wreaths presented in their honor. The ceremony will be held at San Fernando Cathedral at 10:00 a.m., located at 115 W. Main Plaza.

VICTIM AWARENESS MARCH

Following the blessing of the wreaths the group will march from San Fernando Cathedral to the flagpole located at the southside entrance of the Cadena-Reeves Justice Center, 300 Dolorosa.

WREATH LAYING CEREMONY & LIGHTING OF VICTIMS' FLAME

At 10:30 a.m. various city and county organizations that provide services to victims of crime will lay memorial wreaths at the flagpole located at the southside entrance of the Cadena-Reeves Justice Center, 300 Dolorosa. A candle will be lit followed by a moment of silence to honor all victims of crime in Bexar County.

SOUTHSIDE FAMILY COUNSELING CENTER – OPEN HOUSE

Southside Family Counseling Center will be hosting an open house from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at their offices located at 1151 Mission Road (parking is free). Please contact their office at (210) 302-6920 if you have any questions.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7TH

CHILDREN'S PICNIC

A picnic honoring victims of crime, particularly children, will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., in Milam Park. Everyone is invited to join the festivities, which will include balloons, clowns, face painting, the Spurs Silver Dancers, McGruff the Crime Fighting Dog, Darren the DARE Lion, and others. Lunch will be served.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH

"LOVE, LAUGHTER AND LEMONADA" – STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS

The P.E.A.C.E. Initiative, the Center for Women in Church and Society and City Councilwoman Patti Radle invite you to attend a day focusing on building healthy family relationships on the campus of Our Lady of the Lake Univ., 411 SW 24th Street. Children are welcome and lunch will be served. Please contact Virginia Valenzuela for more information, 434-6711

For questions or more information about these events or National Crime Victims' Rights Week, please contact Cyndi Jahn, Victim Services Coordinator for the Bexar County District Attorney's Office at (210) 335-2733.